Concord, May 1. 1893

My dear Mr. May -

I am just
received, & am glad I am
so well pleased with the day's
proceedings. I find that the
occasion was regarded as a
great success & our Dinners
people think it was the most
notable meeting Ever held in
town. And I am ~~so~~ much
mistaken if it is not looked
back to as such in time to
come, should that be, as it
may, the last of the Abolition
Reunions.

Of course, there
were certain drawbacks. We
could have prefered that some
of the Speeches might have
been longer. As it was, we
were obliged to crowd Every-
thing into a Single afternoon
& omit the half-hour intermis-
sion which had been proposed.
We found that all the abolitionist

Mrs. Brown - Mr. Brown - Mr. Garrison - Mr. Phillips - Mr. Quincy - Mr. Sewall - Mr. Wendell Phillips - Mr. Garrison - Mr. Phillips - Mr. Quincy - Mr. Sewall - Mr. Wendell Phillips

of other towns who were coming from far & near - places about Boston & in smaller parts of Mass - & even from N.H. & R.I. - wanted to come & return the same day, most of them being aged & not wishing to stay away from home longer. They could not be on the ground for a morning session & a very large proportion of them could not be with us at the lunch & some of them did not arrive until after the meeting in the Hall opened at one oclock. Now could they stay for an Evening Session. Some of them began to go away between four & five, all were an hour or two later. With the Hutchinsons & all the old Veterans gone at Lisbon or there -

abouts, an Evening Session would have been shorn of the glory & the Communion also would have Ended, most likely, in a "fizzle." So it seemed the thing to do, & Crowd Everything, as best we could, into the afternoon - at least a Dozen Speeches, various Songs, important letters, photographic News, presentation of gifts, &c - - It necessitated the abbreviation of Speeches, even of the noted men & women who had the right of way: & it also necessitated leaving out Several persons who desired to be heard on the occasion, & whom we should have been glad to make room for had it been possible, (though they had not been invited by us) Mrs. H. Reade B. Blackwell, Mrs. Sunderland & others. Especially important & obligatory did it seem to us,

that all who had been pre
viously invited to speak a
who had been publickly an
nounced accordingly, & who
were on the ground to say
their word, should have the
opportunity. So that, look
ing back to the day, I do
not see how we could h
done much better than w
did. All who had been in
vited to speak & who were
present, had their chance
if I may except Mrs
Lothrick, who, as I look
about for her & wanted he
to say a few words, had go
I ought to say that we we
a little belated at the out
by the non-arrival, in t
of our Beverly Caleses. It
did not reach our Socie
Room until after 12 oclo
when the tables should hav
been already spread & in read

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The photographic pictures were an interruption at the Hall, but, if the Artist's work shall prove to be a success, we think that the End will justify the delay, as it was very desirable to perpetuate this memorable scene - perhaps the last Reunion - "the last & the best", said Mr. Pillsbury to me.

And now we propose to make a book - all the more that the Reports have been, as so generally happens, so inaccurate & otherwise unsatisfactory. We shall probably publish in pamphlet form the Speeches, Letters, Songs &c with a full list of the invited Guests, a list of the persons present so far as we can make it out, & other interesting

matter. The best photographic
views we want also to in-
troduce. The written address
will be given Sabine. We have
a first class Reporter from
Boston to take down from
"Every word" uttered by Speakers
without Manuscripts. As soon
as I get the whole from him
as I Expect to do very soon,
I shall send to Each one
his Report & Remarks & shall
want him to revise, & add
what more it was in his mind
to say, & return to me as Early
as may be. Then we shall
carry out our programme
more fully than we could
do in our afternoon meet-
ing. You will oblige me very
much if You will add to all
Your other most valuable &
helpful Service, this aid.

I can never thank You

Enough, Dear, Venerable
friend, for all Your kindness.
More than You know, the
presence of so many "old
Lines" was due to You. Your
suggestion very many of the
names & Your own honored
name had great Effect to draw.

And let me thank
You most warmly for the
letter in which You kindly
outlined for me Your own Life
Story & Service. It was just
what I wanted: for I desire
to give, in an Appendix from
in our book, a brief Sketch,
in my own way or in my own
responsibility, of the Notables
who were there - Somewhat
more Extensive ones of Janney,
Mrs. Hutchinson,
Mrs. Pillsbury, Lucy Stone, &
& briefer ones of Wm. Lloyd Garrison
Jr, Pitcher, Dr Downing, the Parkers
Miss Southwick, Mrs. Dixie, &
many others. I think it would

add finally to the value & interest of the book. Many were there who were present as former agents, Locations & — of Anti Slavery Societies Earnest workers in the Cause It should be made known who & what they were, Even if it be told in but a few brief lines. Tell me, please, what Jan Law, of these & others, & me if Jn do not approve the plan. Of Course, the next thing was to bring all these Saints & apostles together - to let them Exchange greetings once more - to let our people see them & as far as possible hear their voices - while Jesh they were in the flesh & before they too Should go hence. Trusting Jesh work no cold, nor even fatigue overmuch, & with boundless gratitude & abiding veneration I am, as Ever, Faithfully Jours

A. P. Putnam

Rev. Samuel May. 3

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